

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3309

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May 6, 2014

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy:

I write today to respectfully urge you, as Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, to support H.R. 3627, the *Kilah Davenport Child Protection Act of 2013*. This legislation is critical as an observance of the tragic death of 4-year old Kilah Davenport, a constituent of mine who was severely beaten by her stepfather and ultimately died of her injuries. It will also help to combat child abuse nationwide and ensure that the perpetrators of these horrific acts against children are brought to justice.

The *Kilah Davenport Child Protection Act* passed the House of Representatives unanimously in December. The bill calls on the U.S. Attorney General to study child abuse penalties in every state and report back to the House and Senate Judiciary Committees with his findings. It would also ensure that habitual offenders of crimes against children do not escape the criminal penalties for domestic assault that they should justly receive.

No child should have to endure the unspeakable tragedy suffered by Kilah Davenport, and we should work to prevent more innocent children from becoming victims of abuse in the future. I respectfully urge you to take swift action to support the *Kilah Davenport Child Protection Act* and report the legislation to the full Senate for consideration.

Thank you in advance for your assistance with this matter.

Sincerely,



Kay R. Hagan
United States Senator

cc: Senator Richard Burr